Telephone Advisory Committee for Orissa

1219. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to re-constitute the Telephone Advisory Committee for Orissa;

(b) if so, the time by which such committee is likely to be re-constituted; and

(c) when the last Telecom/Telephone Advisory Committee for Orissa was constituted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The Telecom Advisory Committee for Orissa was constituted on 29-3-1991 and is under review.

[*Translation*]

New Cross Bar Telephone Exchange at Dombivali in Maharashtra

1220. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Cross Bar Telephone Exchange of ten thousand lines capacity is being set up at Dombivali in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A seven thousand lines new Crossbar telephone exchange is being set up at Dombivali in Maharashtra.

(b) This exchange is planned to be commissioned in 1991-92.

[*English*]

Visit of Haj Delegation to Saudi Arabia

1221. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the composition and the criteria of selection of the official delegation to Saudi Arabia on the occasion of Haj, 1991;

(b) the estimated or actual expenditure incurred on the visit of the delegation, in rupees and in foreign exchange separately;

(c) the purpose, activities and achievements of the delegation;

(d) the details of the recommendations made by the delegation; and

(e) the details of the recommendations made by the Haj delegations of 1989 and 1990 and the present status of their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The composition of Haj Goodwill Delegation, 1991 is given in Statement-I. There are no specific criteria laid down for selection of members. However, Government selects eminent Muslims as members taking into account the principle of regional representation and the interest taken by the individual in the welfare of our Haj pilgrims.

(b) The details of expenditure are given in Statement-II.

(c) The purpose is to promote goodwill between the two countries, to convey our gratitude to the Saudi authorities for the arrangements for Haj and to look into the arrangements for our pilgrims with a view to further improvement. The delegation called on a number of Saudi dignitaries and the leader carried a letter from Prime Minister to King Fahd.

(d) Details of recommendations made by the delegation, 1991 are given in Statement-III.

(e) Necessary details are given in Statement-IV and V.